

**As part of his message of “Made in the USA, ship it around the world”, Congressman Larson invited Meera Shankar, India’s Ambassador to the United States, to the First District to visit with Connecticut-based companies and to learn about their products.**

**Among the events Ambassador Shankar joined in during her visit included:**

- **Visiting Pratt & Whitney in East Hartford to tour the facility and learn more about the engines they produce for the C-17 engine.**

- **Meeting with small business owners from South Windsor, Manchester, and Newington interested in exporting their products to India**

- **Speaking with local machinists and Indian Americans from Greater Hartford**

**Connecticut has a strong relationship with India that has been growing rapidly over the past decade.**

**Currently, Connecticut exports about \$110 million worth of goods to India each year and from 2007 – 2009, exports have increased by almost 50%.**

**Below you will find an article by the Journal Inquirer describing Ambassador Shankar’s visit to Pratt & Whitney’s Customer Training Center.**

***It is time for Made in America to make a comeback, and our state and our companies can be leader of that effort.***

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Journal Inquirer (via: [www.journalinquirer.com](http://www.journalinquirer.com) )

## **India's ambassador tours Pratt ahead of major C-17 contract**

**By Howard French**

EAST HARTFORD — India's ambassador to the U.S., Meera Shankar, took a whirlwind tour Thursday of Pratt & Whitney's Customer Training Center, where mechanics from India will learn to service the engines of C-17 military transport planes.

But before India can purchase the planes, Congress must approve India's request to buy the 10 Boeing-built C-17s, powered by military versions of Pratt's PW2000 engines. Including spare engines, India's order would be worth up to \$1.4 billion to Pratt.

The deal also would benefit Pratt corporate sibling Hamilton Sundstrand in Windsor Locks, which makes millions of dollars of engine controls and other equipment for the C-17.

Congressman John B. Larson, D-1st District, who arranged for Thursday's tour, said he foresees little resistance in Congress to the sale. Larson said that Thursday's tour was part of a wider effort to increase the flow of trade to India from a variety of Connecticut businesses.

Shankar said little during a public portion of the tour, which followed a private lunch with Larson and with officials from Pratt's corporate parent, Hartford-based United Technologies Corp.

As Pratt Customer Service Center General Manager Laura Holmes described to Shankar the features of various Pratt engines on display at the center, the ambassador at one point said her function is primarily diplomatic, "not so much technical."

Holmes went on to describe Pratt's role in powering planes in India's passenger airline fleets, including Kingfisher Airlines, which flies Airbus A330 aircraft powered by Pratt's PW4000 engines. All of Kingfisher's planes are powered by engines made by Pratt or International Aero

Engines, the multinational aerospace partnership led by Pratt and Britain's Rolls-Royce.

Underscoring the importance of the Indian market to several of its subsidiaries, UTC CEO Louis Chenevert also attended the luncheon; he did not take part in the tour.

UTC's Farmington-based Carrier Corp. has invested \$50 million in India since 2008 to build what Carrier officials dubbed a "global research and development center" to develop products for the Indian market.

India has a rapidly growing economy and is a strategically important market for Carrier, company officials have said; the country is expected to become one of the world's largest markets by 2012. Carrier has more than 500 sales and service dealers across India, the company said.

UTC's Otis Elevator Co. subsidiary has won a large amount of business in India in recent years, including contracts to install a combined 174 elevators and escalators in a new "super mall" in Mumbai and in an information technology